

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims, if entered, will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-identified application.

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:  
~~in response to receiving a first request on behalf of from~~ a requesting instance of a plurality of instances of an application[[,]];  
in response to receiving the first request, transmitting an index file to the requesting instance, wherein the index file comprises providing a criterion for identifying a set of instances of the plurality of instances to receive first data and a location of the first data; and  
receiving a second request from the requesting instance;  
providing in response to receiving the second request, transmitting the first data to the requesting instance when  
~~a second request is made on behalf of the requesting instance for the first data upon determining that the requesting instance satisfies the criterion.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein  
~~the providing the criterion and the location comprises:~~  
~~providing the criterion and the location when~~  
~~second data associated with the criterion and the location have been updated~~ the index file is transmitted to the requesting instance when second data associated with the criterion and the location is updated.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~wherein~~  
~~the providing the criterion and the location comprises:~~  
~~providing the criterion and the location when~~  
~~second data associated with the criterion and the location have been updated~~  
since a time specified in the second request the index file is transmitted to  
the requesting instance after second data associated with the criterion and  
the location is updated and after a predetermined amount of time has  
passed since the second data was updated.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
receiving a message indicating whether the first data was received.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 further comprising:  
~~providing~~ retransmitting the first data ~~again~~ upon request by the requesting  
instance when the message indicates that an error occurred in ~~receiving in~~  
response to transmitting the first data.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein  
the first data comprise configuration data for each of the set of instances of the  
application.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein  
the first data comprise an announcement to be sent to each of the set of instances  
of the application.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein  
the first data comprise one of:  
a first executable program for each of the set of instances of the application,  
a second executable program to install a third executable program for each of the  
set of instances of the application, and  
a component of the application for each of the set of instances of the application.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. **(Currently Amended)** A system comprising:

first ~~providing~~ means for ~~providing~~ transmitting an index file that comprises a  
criterion for identifying a set of instances of a plurality of instances of an  
application to receive first data and a location of the first data, wherein the  
first means transmits the index file in response to receiving a first request  
~~on behalf of~~ a requesting instance of the plurality of instances of the  
application;

and

second ~~providing~~ means for ~~providing the~~ transmitting the first data to the  
requesting instance ~~when in response to receiving~~ a second request is  
~~made on behalf of~~ from the requesting instance for the first data ~~upon~~  
~~determining that the requesting instance satisfies the criterion.~~

12. (Original) The system of claim 11 further comprising:

receiving means for receiving a message indicating whether the first data was  
received.

13. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim 12 further comprising:

third ~~providing~~ means for ~~providing~~ retransmitting the first data again upon  
request by the requesting instance when the message indicates that an  
error occurred in receiving the first data.

14. – 18. (Cancelled)

19. **(Currently Amended)** A computer-readable medium comprising:  
first ~~providing~~ instructions to ~~provide~~ transmit an index file, wherein the index file comprises a criterion for identifying a set of instances of a plurality of instances of an application to receive first data and a location of the first data in response to receiving a first request ~~on behalf of~~ from a requesting instance of the plurality of instances of the application;  
and  
second ~~providing~~ instructions to ~~provide~~ transmit the first data to the requesting instance ~~when in response to receiving a second request is made on behalf of~~ from the requesting instance for the first data ~~upon determining that the requesting instance satisfies the criterion.~~
20. **(Original)** The computer-readable medium of claim 19 further comprising:  
receiving instructions to receive a message indicating whether the first data was received.
21. **(Currently Amended)** The computer-readable medium of claim 19 further comprising:  
third ~~providing~~ instructions to ~~provide~~ retransmit the first data ~~again~~ upon request by the requesting instance when the message indicates that an error occurred in receiving the first data.
22. **(Cancelled)**

23. – 26. (Cancelled)

27. (Original) A computer readable medium for storing instructions executable by a first computer system, wherein a method is performed by the first computer system in response to executing the instructions, the method comprising the first computer system transmitting a file to each of a plurality of second computer systems, wherein the file comprises first and second data, wherein the first data is processable by each of the plurality of second computer systems to determine whether it should receive data stored at a location identified by the second data.

28. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 27 wherein the plurality of second computer systems is a subset of computer systems coupled to the first computer system.

29. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 27 further comprising the first computer system transmitting the data to one of plurality of second computer systems in response to the first computer system receiving a request from the one of the plurality of second computer systems, wherein the first computer system receives the request after transmitting the file to the one of the plurality of second computer systems.

30. (Original) A computer readable medium for storing instructions executable by a first computer system, wherein a method is performed by the first computer system in response to executing the instructions, the method comprising:  
in response to receiving a file from a second computer system, the first computer system processing first data of the file to determine whether the first computer system should request data stored at a location identified by second data of the file.

31. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 30 wherein processing first data comprises comparing the first data with third data stored in the first computer system, wherein the first computer system transmits a request the data stored at the location if the first computer system determines that the first data compares equally to the third data, wherein the first computer system transmits the request to the second computer system.